

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are pending. Claims 1-5, 8-22, 25-39, and 42-49 have been rejected, and claims 6-7, 16, 18, 23-24, and 40-41 have been objected to. Claims 1-3, 7-10, 18-20, 24-27, 32, 35, 37, and 41-44 have been amended, and claims 4-6, 21-23, and 38-40 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented below.

Claims 16 and 18 were objected to since two claims were labeled as claim 16, and no claim was labeled as claim 18. During examination, claim 17 was assumed to be claim 18, and the second claim 16 was assumed to be claim 17. Accordingly, in the listing of claims, claim 17 is renumbered as claim 18, and the second claim 16 is renumbered as claim 17.

In the current Office action the Examiner rejected claims 35, 37-38, and 42-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by McClendon (6,757,630). In addition, the Examiner rejected the following claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the following references.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims	References
1, 3, 4, 8-12, 18, 20-21, and 25-29	McClendon, further in view of Elsberry (6,423,029)
2, 5, 19, and 22	McClendon, further in view of Elsberry, further in view of Peterson et al. (2002/0183693)
13-14 and 30-31	McClendon, further in view of Elsberry, further in view of Archibald (4,705,506)

Claims	References
15-16 and 32-33	McClendon, further in view of Elsberry, further in view of Peterson, further in view of Archibald
17 and 34	McClendon, further in view of Elsberry, further in view of Archibald, further in view of Zaitso (2004/0193328)
36 and 39	McClendon, further in view of Peterson
45 and 46	McClendon, further in view of Archibald
47-48	McClendon, further in view of Peterson, further in view of Archibald
49	McClendon, further in view of Archibald, further in view of Zaitso

Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejections and reserves the right to pursue the rejected claims in a continuation application.

Claims 6-7, 23-24, and 40-41 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In order to expedite prosecution, the limitations of claims 6, 23, 40, and any intervening claims have been added to independent claims 1, 18, and 35, respectively, making all the rejections moot. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1, 18, 35, and the pending claims dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

Specifically, claim 1 is currently amended to include all of the limitations of claims 4 and 6, now canceled. Claims 7-10 (formerly depending on claim 4 or 6) are currently amended to depend on claim 1. Claim 18 is currently amended to include all of the limitations of claims 21 and 23, now canceled. Claims 24-27 (formerly depending on claim 21 or 23) are currently amended to depend on claim 18. Claim 35 is currently

amended to include all of the limitations of claims 38 and 40, now canceled. Claims 41-44 (formerly depending on claim 38 or 40) are currently amended to depend on claim 35.

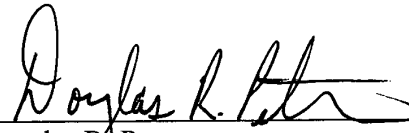
To more clearly define the claimed invention, "expected pressure" in claims 1-3, 18-20, and 37 is replaced with --induced pressure--, and "particular conduit" in claim 18 is replaced with --selected conduit--. In addition, "a selected conduit" in claim 32 is replaced with --the respective conduit--. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account no. 06-2425 for any unforeseen fees arising from the filing of this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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